

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COLOMB 04519 101011Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 SMI-01 PA-02 /018 W

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R 100707Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6310

UNCLAS COLOMBO 4519

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TGEN, CE

SUBJECT: BICENTENNIAL ELEPHANT

REF: STATE 295615

1.ELEPHANT IS ONE YEAR OLD FEMALE AND IS STILL ON INFANT MILK FOOD. GAME RANGER A.P.D. B. SAMARANAYAKE, WHO HAS RAISED ELEPHANT SINCE IT WAS FOUND ABANDONED IN WATER HOLE AT AGE TWO WEEKS, WILL ACCOMPANY. HE PLANS TO STAY IN U.S. 2-4 WEEKS AT SRI LANKAN AMBASSADOR'S HOME. IF POSSIBLE, HOWEVER,SAMARANAYKE WOULD LIKE TO SPEND FIRST COUPLE OF DAYS WITH ELEPHANT AT NATIONAL ZOO. WOULD THIS BE POSSIBLE? SAMARANAYAKE'S ENGLISH IS VERY LIMITED.

2. DIMENSIONS OF CRATE WILL BE APPROXIMATELY: LENGTH, 60 INCHES; WIDTH, 36 INCHES; HEIGHT, 52 ICHES. ELEPHANT AND CRATE TOGETHER WILL WEIGHT ABOUT 1,000 POUNDS. PAKISTAN AIRWAYS HAS AGREED TO CARRY ELEPHANT FROM KARACHI TO LONDON AND PAN PAMERICAN WILL TAKE HER FROM LONDON TO WASHINGTON (NOT NEW YORK.) PROBLEM IS HOW TO GET ELEPHANT FROM COLOMBO TO KARACHI. GSL HAS BEEN UNABLE TO ARRANGE AIR TRANSPORTATION AND IS NOW TRYING TO ARRANGE FOR A SHIP. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER WHEN TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE IS KNOWN.  
REED

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELEPHANTS, BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976COLOMB04519  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760456-0739  
**From:** COLOMBO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761255/aaaabvrv.tel  
**Line Count:** 49  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 1  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 295615  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** wolfsd  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <02 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BICENTENNIAL ELEPHANT  
**TAGS:** TGEN, CE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006